

**REMARKS**

***Status of Claims***

Claims 1-75 were pending. Claim 48 is amended and new claims 76-80 are presented. No new matter is entered.

***Response to Restriction Requirement***

Applicants restrict the application to Group I, corresponding to claims 1-45 and 47. Applicants have amended claim 48 to depend from claim 1, so claims 48-75 are properly rejoined.

***Response to Election Requirements***

The Examiner required three elections of species in paragraphs 5, 6, and 8 of the Office Action, respectively. For the paragraph 5 election, Applicants provisionally elect nucleic acid. Claims 1-80 read thereon. For the paragraph 6 election, Applicants provisionally elect beads. Claims 1-80 read thereon. For the paragraph 8 election, Applicants provisionally elect amplification reagent. Claims 1-80 read thereon.

Species elections are made provisionally and for search purposes only.

***Fee Payment***

Applicants have paid \$125 to present five claims in excess of twenty. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any other SMALL ENTITY fee required by the filing of this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1448, ref. IQA-009.01.

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Respectfully submitted,

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